

Statement by the Republic of Slovenia

at the

37th Session of the Human Rights Council -Clustered interactive dialogue with Special Rapporteurs on environment and food (item 3)

Geneva. 2 March 2018

Thank you, Mr President.

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement. We thank Special Rapporteurs for their reports and presentations today.

Mr Knox,

As a member of the core group on environment and human rights, Slovenia has followed closely your work. We believe that you have laid the ground work on the field, by providing numerous studies and reports, carrying out activities as well as cooperating with different stakeholders in a transparent and inclusive manner. As this is the last time that you address the Council in your current capacity, Slovenia would like to warmly thank you for the work done in the last six years – on a more personal note of our mission staff: it has been a pleasure to work with you.

We further appreciate that you have provided ideas for future work on this field, which confirm that despite developments much has yet to be done.

We believe that Framework Principles present an important overview of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and will, in our national capacity, do utmost to take them into account in our activities.

With regard to your report on the relationship between children's rights and environmental protection, we share the assessment on particular vulnerability of children to the effects of environmental harm and believe there are other forms of environmental burdens that children are subjected to. Among them are those affecting soil, noise, electromagnetic radiation, light pollution and odours.

Considering your reports, including the Framework Principles and the report on good practices of 2015, we would like to ask you to elaborate on the biggest gaps and challenges in the implementation of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. In what way can the Council further contribute to overcoming these challenges?

I thank you.